

UNITED CHURCH . . .

GLAMIS MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH

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Glamis Memorial United Church

Glamis

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IT is respectfully dedicated to the memory of the Christian men and women who pioneered in the Church and Community of this area and passed on before the fruits of their labors found expression in The Glamis Memorial United Church - 1948.

PIONEERS OF THE CHURCH WHO
HAVE FOUND THEIR REST

1906 - 1948

MR. H. CURRIE
MRS. H. CURRIE
MRS. F. CAMPBELL
MRS. S. COCHRANE
MR. W. FLEMING
MRS. T. GARDINER
MR. J. HAY
MRS. J. HAY
MRS. H. HENDERSHOTT
MR. J. KRUSE
MRS. J. KRUSE
MRS. J. LEITH
MRS. F. LYNCH
MRS. J. McGREGOR
MR. A. McCONNELL
MR. J. PATON
MRS. THURSTON
MR. W. C. WHYTE
MR. R. O. WHYTE
MR. C. WICKETT
MRS. C. WICKETT
MR. H. WICKETT
MRS. H. WICKETT

— FOREWORD —

The opening of the Glamis Memorial United Church on June 27th, 1948, has created new interest in the life of the congregation. This event marked a significant accomplishment which the congregation had looked forward to for many years. Yet this event was only made possible by the faith and labors of the people over a period of many years. The story of the Church in Glamis community goes back well over forty years. It is a story that should not be forgotten by those who worship in the fine building now standing in Glamis. Parts of the story are cherished in the memories of the pioneers, but many of the younger generation are not acquainted with its details. Consequently, at a meeting of members of the Session of the Glamis Memorial Church held in December of 1949, it was decided to have printed an account of the development of the church in the Glamis Community.

The basis of the major part of this history is a compilation done by a special committee in 1942 as noted in the preface. This account has been edited and a further chapter added by the minister, aided by members of session and other members, and information obtained from church records, to bring it up to the present date.



— PREFACE —

The following is the copy of a motion passed at the annual meeting of the Glamis United Church Congregation on January 27th, 1942:

"That the congregation appoint a Committee to draw up an historical sketch of the origin and development of the Church in this Community."

A subsequent motion appointed Mr. C. E. Campbell as convenor and Messrs. R. W. Sansom, J. Paton, R. D. Nisbet, J. H. Currie and F. M. Campbell as members of the committee.

The Committee met in the Glamis Hall on Friday, April 10th. Mr. James McGregor, Mr. T. Gardiner, Mr. J. C. Pateman, Mrs. C. E. Campbell and Mrs. R. W. Sansom were also present. The following is the historical sketch based on information gathered at that meeting. It is by no means adequate as a comprehensive review, but it does present some facts of which there is no official record. As a supplement to the regular minutes preserved in the Record Book of the Official Board, the committee trusts it will fulfill the purpose for which it was intended.

(The original of the above, and the following sketch, in the distinctive handwriting of Rev. George Struthers, then the minister of the Church, is preserved among the records of the Glamis Memorial United Church.)



A Short Historical Sketch

Of the Beginning of The Church in The Glamis Community



As in many other pioneer prairie communities the Church had a humble beginning in the territory now served by the Glamis United Church. The first services of worship were held in the homes of the early settlers, and although the surroundings were not elaborate, the atmosphere was sacred and inspired reverence in the hearts of those who assembled there.

The first occasion on which the settlers met for public worship was in the early summer of 1906. The service was held at the home of Mr. J. Rodgers, who had located on Section 6, Township 29, Range 13. Services were also held that summer at the home of Mr. William Whyte, Section 34, Township 28, Range 14, and were conducted by Arthur J. Lewis, a student-minister of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Lewis, who attended St. Andrew's Theological College in Saskatoon during the winter months, (from its founding in 1914), continued to serve different points in the district, including Sovereign, each summer with the exception of one, until the spring of 1916, when he was graduated from College and ordained. One of the original "saddle-back" preachers, he gave outstanding leadership to the Church in the community and his contribution is remembered with much gratitude.

In July of 1906, the Rev. A. Laycock, who was at the time the Methodist minister at Qu'Appelle, paid a visit to his son in the Hughton district. While in the vicinity he conducted church service which was held in a large tent and which is still remembered at the time of this writing by several of the old-timers who were members of his audience on that occasion. According to one authentic report, the mosquitoes far outnumbered the congregation, and made their presence both audible and felt.

During the summer of 1907, several of the services conducted by Mr. A. Lewis were held in the homes of J. C. Hay (S. 16, T. 28, R 14) and T. Gardiner (S. 28, T. 28, R. 14). (An interesting sidelight on the trials and tribulations of the early settlers is supplied by C. E. Campbell, who remembers seeing Mr. J. McGregor and Mr. R. Sansom at work one day in the field. They had their oxen yoked to an old sulky plow, but the plough consistently refused to go in the same direction as the oxen. How the problem was solved is not on record, but there is little doubt that the ingenuity of the ploughmen was equal to the occasion.)

During the summer of 1908 some services were conducted by a student of the Church of England, who came South from Zealandia. Services were also began that year in the Glamis district then called Bonnieview, and were held at the home of Mr. H. Currie (S. 6, T. 28, R. 13) during both 1908 and 1909. These services at Mr. Currie's were conducted by Mr. John Thrasher (a neice of Mr. Thrasher's, who later became Mrs. Wm. Waite of Sovereign, often accompanied him and played for the services), Mr. Finlay, and Mr. Williamson, all of whom were Methodist lay preachers and lived in Wiseton district.

The first winter services held in the community were held in the winter of 1911-12. After Mr. J. A. Lewis left for college in the fall of 1911, the Rev. Mr. McNhedren, who was then Presbyterian minister at Rosetown, conducted services at the home of Mr. T. Gardiner and then in the new school-house which had been just built. The school-house from that time on became the place of teaching during the week, with Mrs. Jack Lawson as first teacher, and the meeting place for public worship on Sundays. Another memorable event of that same fall was a special Harvest Thanksgiving Service which was held before the school-house was completed, at the home of Mrs. R. Hutchinson. This was one of the largest services held in the district until that time. Soon after the day school was established a Sunday School was organized with Mr. James McGregor as its first superintendent and Grace Sinclair, Helen Sansom and Mrs. Raynor among its teachers.

In the year 1911, Mr. Charles Wickett settled in Madoc district and for many years gave able leadership in the church work of that community. The Madoc school was built in 1915, and church services were held there from then on. When Mr. Lewis left the charge he, was succeeded by Mr. S. Gardiner, who served from April until September 1916. He in turn was succeeded by Mr. W. E. Bannerman, who served from April to September 1917. Mr. H. A. McManus began his ministry in the spring of 1918, and continued to serve both Idaleen and Madoc until July 1922, with the exception of his last year when he preached only at Madoc. It was during his ministry that the manse was built in Sovereign, with which point Madoc and Idaleen were associated in the pastoral charge.

The first church service to be held in the Padgate district was conducted in the fall of 1912, by Mr. Williamson of Wiseton. Services were held at the home of Mr. R. D. Nisbet and at the home of Mr. Williams, and then in a granary which was equipped with seats for the purpose. The granary which was located in Mr. Nisbet's yard, was small but comfortable. Mr. Robert McNaughton

conducted services there in 1914 and also in the school-house which was built in 1915. At the close of his ministry the Padgate congregation was served by the minister from Wiseton until the fall of 1922, when it became associated with Sovereign and Madoc under Rev. R. Graham.

The Rev. R. Graham was inducted at a service held in the Sovereign church on October 17th, 1922, and until June 1926, he conducted services at both Madoc and Padgate. In 1923 Idaleen became a Mission Field and until 1930, was supplied by a student during the summer months. Those who gave service in this capacity were Mr. L. C. Harvey in 1923, Mr. Shields in 1924, Mr. E. Montour in 1925, Mr. Roe (a native of Newfoundland) in 1926, Mr. G. Bennett from the University of Saskatchewan in 1927, Mr. C. Bescorn in 1928, Mr. L. Norris, who later graduated in medicine at Toronto in 1929, and Mr. G. Mervyn in 1930.

Rev. George Marshall became minister in July, 1926, and served until June 1927. On December 26th, 1926, a special meeting was held at Glamis, when Mr. C. E. Campbell moved and Mr. J. H. Currie seconded a motion that the Madoc and Padgate congregations unite to form the Glamis United Church Congregation. The motion carried, and at the same meeting arrangements were made to have Sunday School organized in the spring. At the first annual meeting of the new united congregation held on January 24th, 1927, the following nine members were elected to the board of managers: C. E. Campbell, J. Paton, C. Gibson, E. McConnell, R. D. Nisbet, J. C. Pateman, W. Hunt, J. H. Currie and H. Mitchell. A committee of three consisting of Mrs. J. C. Pateman, Mrs. J. Leith and Mrs. C. E. Campbell was appointed to arrange for the organization of a Woman's Association.

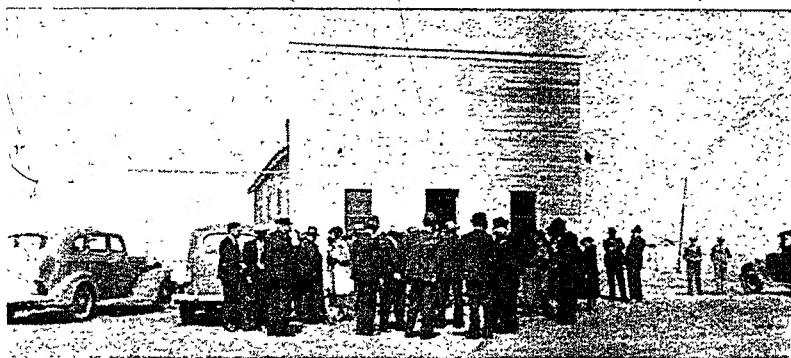
Rev. A. Y. Robertson succeeded Rev. G. Marshall in July, 1927. In 1931 the Idaleen point amalgamated with the Glamis church and became part of the Glamis United Church congregation. Rev. J. C. Hartley succeeded Rev. A. Y. Robertson in July, 1933. From this point on records of the work and life of the congregation are adequately preserved in the regular minutes of the church's various organizations.

In closing this short historical sketch, sincere appreciation is expressed for the untiring efforts and the wise foresight of those who laid the early foundations of the Church in the community. We thank God for the blessings of Christian fellowship which it has afforded in the past and we pray that it may be the source of still greater spiritual blessings in the days to come.

(Editor's Note: It is notable, and seems significant, that no mention of entering Union is included in this sketch. It appears

that this congregation became a part of the United Church of Canada on June 10th, 1925, with no feeling that a great change was taking place. This is typical of many congregations in Western Canada where Union had taken place in actuality or in spirit before that date.

While the majority of people in this district were Presbyterians and were served by the Presbyterian Church in the preceding years, yet they, with their ministers, welcomed Union as in the best interests of the Christian Church in their own district and the world.)



AFTER A SERVICE IN GLAMIS HALL, 1937

Chapter 2

We Build the Church

The story of the beginning of the Church in Glamis community contained in the previous pages has brought us to the early thirties. No mention has been made of the longing, indeed the determination, to erect a building to the glory of God and for the proclamation of the Gospel in this community. Yet this plan was in the mind of the pioneer Christian workers for many years. At times plans were advanced and considered, but, with a true Scottish abhorrence of debts, the congregation would not begin a building until the means of paying for the structure was clearly in sight.

Rev. George Struthers succeeded Rev. J. C. Hartley as minister of the congregation in July, 1936. He gave able leadership to the congregation for 6 years (and also played a bit of soccer). At a board meeting in October, 1939, a committee of three: R. W. Sansom, H. O. Hendershott and J. C. Pateman, were appointed "to investigate the cost of building a church in Glamis, and report to a general meeting on Tuesday, October 26th, in Glamis Hall." At the general meeting it was reported that cost of a church building would be about \$5,000. A canvass of the community was made, but as the monies promised did not approach the sum required it was decided at a meeting in November to defer action for the time being.

Rev. Phil Hommersen was called to succeed Rev. George Struthers in July, 1942. Two years later he was succeeded by Rev. Laurie B. Sealy. It was during the ministry of L. B. Sealy that the building project finally took shape and was successfully launched.

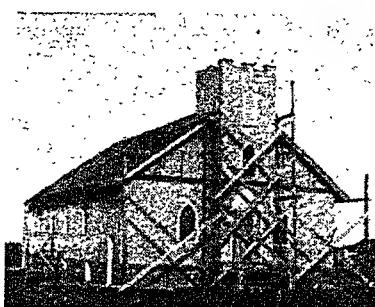
A meeting of the Church Board and Women's Association and others on October 31, 1945, elected Wm. Leith as chairman and A. G. Trafford as secretary. It was decided to continue investigations re the erection of a church building at Glamis. A committee was appointed to visit various churches in the vicinity for the purpose of obtaining ideas regarding the size, plan and cost of a suitable building.

A congregational meeting on November 21st, chaired by L. B. Sealy, passed a motion: "That we prepare to build a church, if and when we can obtain materials." A Building and Canvassing Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. J. A. Leith, T. Smith, R. W. Sansom, C. Campbell and M. Walker, with the previously elected chairman and secretary (Wm. Leith and A. G. Trafford.)

The lots for the building were given by Mr. George Weiler. The lots West of Federal No. 2 cottage were chosen as the site for the church. The Women's Association turned their building fund of \$3,646 over to the building committee. A canvass of the community brought the Building Fund to \$9,000.

The annex of Federal No. 2 elevator was purchased for building materials and dismantled in the spring of 1946. The basement was dug and cement and for basement and foundation was poured in June, with three cement mixers, numerous trucks, tanks and wheelbarrows and fifty volunteer workers. The Women's Association, who were always eager to support the work, made plans to serve lunch at 3.30 that afternoon to fortify the men for the last hours of the working day. However, by 3.30 all the cement was poured.

All work did not progress as rapidly as this. Shortages of materials and some kinds of skilled labor caused considerable delay. The superstructure was erected in 1946. When Rev. Charlie Brandow was called to succeed Rev. L. B. Sealy in July, 1947, the main structure was almost completed, but windows, doors and other fixtures were temporarily unobtainable. Part of the stuccoing was done in the fall of 1947. In February of 1948 a crew was hired to complete much of the inside work — erecting the furnace, plastering, etc.



communion table arrived only a few days before the opening service. The odor of varnish was still fresh on pulpit and pews when the church was officially opened on June 27th, 1948. The reports of this event published in the United Church Observer gives the main details of the day.

Finally early in June, 1948, a special meeting of the Official Board was called to consider an opening date. It was reported that by rushing some jobs the building could be ready for use, although not entirely completed, by June 27th. It was decided to have the official opening on that date rather than hold it in the holiday season or later. The pulpit and

NEW CHURCH . . .

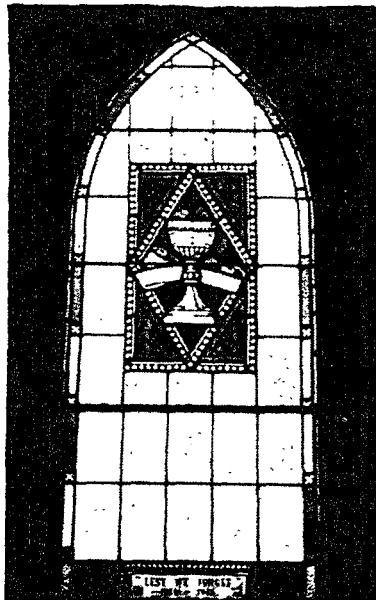
Opened at Glamis, Sask.



An event long looked for by the congregation at Glamis, Sask., (Sovereign-Glamis Charge) took place when the Memorial United Church was officially opened on June 27th, with two services. Guest speaker for the occasion was Dr. Ian MacKinnon, Professor of Church History at Pine Hill Divinity Hall. Rev. L. B. Sealy, Wiseton, minister of the charge when building was commenced, also took part in the morning service and brought greetings. Greetings were sent by former ministers, Rev. A. Y. Robertson, Rev. A. E. Elliott and Rev. Geo. Struthers. Mr. William Leith, representing the building committee, presented the keys to the minister, Rev. Charles Brandow, who conducted the services. The choir rendered special anthems at both morning and evening services. The front of the church was banked with flowers grown by local gardeners. On the following evening a supper was served and a program sponsored by the Women's Association. Rev. L. B. Sealy was guest speaker at the program.

Services have been held in this community for over forty years, but this is the first church building. Building had been contemplated many times, but conditions had not seemed favorable. For some years services have been held in the community hall during the summer and in the public school in winter. Meanwhile an energetic Woman's Association had raised money for a building fund. In 1946 the congregation decided to build. The W.A. fund was turned over to the building committee, and a canvass of the community was made. Building was commenced in 1946, but due to the shortage of materials and some classes of skilled workmen, the structure was not completed until June of this year. Much labor was donated—and this lovely rural church was completed at a cost of about \$13,000, with a furnished basement for suppers and other occasions, and dedicated entirely free of debt. A thriving Sunday School, which formerly had to close in winter months due to lack of accommodation, now looks forward to year-round services.

A number of gifts for the new church merit special mention. The pulpit, communion table and baptismal font were a special gift of Mr. Jack Currie, Ayr, Ontario, in memory of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. H. Currie, in whose home some of the first services were held over forty years ago. The reed organ used in the Currie home at these early services, and still in good condition, was donated by a son-in-law, Mr. Finemore Campbell. The pulpit Bible is a fine old family Bible donated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gardiner, and recently rebound. An extra gift from the W.A. was a stained glass Memorial window. Wine-colored choir gowns were donated by Mr. Jack Smith, the choir leader. Numerous other donations of labor and materials, with the above, have helped to make this a beautiful place of worship.



Memorial Window.



Upper right: Choir and Ministers,
opening day.



Lower right: Parents with babies
baptized on Mothers' Day, 1950.

The oil painting copy of "The Master at the Door," on the West wall, is the work of Jack Smith. It was given by him to the Sunday School and presented by the Sunday School for the church. Opposite it on the East wall is the community honor roll which was unveiled by Mr. Thos. Smith at a service in the Glamis Hall on August 27th, 1944. The names were inscribed by Mr. J. G. Lawson, and the framing was done by Mr. T. Gardiner.

Since the opening three special events were marked in a few months. At the first wedding (July 14) the bride, Miss Eileen Horner, was presented with a bride's Bible by the congregation. The first baby presented for baptism (July 18) Miss Iris Jane Johnston, also received a Bible from the W.A.. On October 3rd, the first communion service was held in the church and a reception of new members. Eleven were received on profession of faith, and two by transfer.

A number of additions have been made in the equipment of the church. Tables and chairs for the basement as well as additional kitchen equipment have been procured by the Women's Association. Four fine pulpit chairs were added in March, 1949. Three of these chairs were special gifts: One by Mrs. J. Paton, Rosetown, in memory of her husband who served for years on the Session of this church; one by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pateman; and the third by Mrs. J. J. Currie, Rosetown, in memory of departed friends. The fourth chair was purchased jointly by the W.A. and the Church Board.

At the first anniversary (June 1949) Dr. A. B. B. Moore, Principal of St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, was the guest speaker. At this service fifteen music editions of the hymnary, in wine colored binding, were dedicated to the service of worship in the church. Each book was a special donation by a member or friend of the congregation.

Short History of the Glamis Women's Association



The Glamis United Church Guild was organized at the home of Mrs. G. B. Weiler on January 31st, 1927, with nineteen members enrolled. The first executive consisted of President, Mrs. J. C. Pateman; Vice-President, Mrs. John Leith; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. A. Horner. In September of that year it was decided to start a "Building Fund" to be used to erect a church at some future date. Throughout the years this Building Fund was added to until it totalled \$3,646.14, which amount was turned over to the Church Building Committee when, in June 1946, it was definitely decided to commence the erection of a church. In February, 1948. An additional \$525 was donated toward fixing a kitchen and completing the basement in the new church.

In May, 1928, after careful study, it was decided to adopt the Constitution of the United Church of Canada, same to be observed as from January 1st, 1929, and at the same time the name was changed to "The Glamis Women's Association." In December, 1939, the W.A. became affiliated with the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada.

Original members still in the club (June 1948) are: Mrs. A. Horner, Mrs. G. B. Weiler, Mrs. R. O. Whyte, Mrs. R. Hough, Mrs. J. C. Pateman. The Association pays tribute to those faithful members who have passed on, namely: Mrs. H. Hendershott, Mrs. Thurston, Mrs. Chas. Wickett, Mrs. John Leith, Mrs. H. Wickett, Mrs. F. Campbell.

(Prepared by Mrs. J. C. Pateman for the official opening
of the Memorial Church)

**Members of Glamis Community who
Volunteered for Active Service
with Canada's Fighting
Forces 1939 - 1945**

888

CLARENCE BILLET	EMERSON MOORE
ROY BILLET	STUART MUTCH
ERNEST CAMPBELL	VICTOR MUTCH
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	LINDSAY NISBET
ARNOLD CURRIE	FERN NUGENT
THOMAS CURRIE	CLIFFORD PATEMAN
KENNETH DOOLITTLE	CARMAN PATON
GEORGE GYROBIRO	ORVAL PATON
ROBERT HAY	WILLIAM RICHARDSON
CHARLES HANDLEY	DANNY SANSON
CLIVE HOUGH	LORNA SANSON
JAMES LAWSON	CLARENCE SMITH
GEORGE LEITH	J. HURLBURT WAITE
HECTOR LEWIS	ALFRED WEILGOSH
FLOYD McCALLUM	CLIFFORD WESTBURY
NEIL MCLEAN	ROY WESTBURY
HARRY MOLOBERRY	ARTHUR WICKETT

Dear Friends:

I trust that I will be pardoned for taking the liberty of closing this booklet with a personal note. Many hours have gone into the gathering, checking, organizing and preparing of this material, but it has been a labor of love which I have enjoyed. Much that you, the readers, might wish to see included has, no doubt, been left out. For omissions and errors I must take the responsibility.

The printing of this material in an attractive form was made possible by the generosity of an anonymous member of the congregation and the co-operation of the Elrose printer. Many people have aided me in many ways, such as looking up material, and loaning prints for the cuts. To all these I would express my thanks.

And to all who have helped in any way to make the Church in this community a living and vital force for God's righteousness and His Kingdom. I can only say, "May God Bless you and keep you." This church and congregation will retain a cherished place in my memories, not only because I saw the building completed, but because I have shared in a deepening and growing fellowship which confirms my own faith in Christ and His Church.

Charlie Brandow



